- TINIAGEL. Low is laid Arthur's head.
 Unknown earth above him mounded;
 By him sleep his splendid knights.
 With whose names the world resounded.
 Rulned glories! flown delights!
 Sank 'mid rumors of old wars!
 Where they revelled, deep they sleep
 By the wild Atlantic shores.
- On Tintagel's fortressed walls.

 Proudly built, the loud sea scorning;
 Pale the moving moonlight falls;

 Through their rents the wind goes mourning.
 See ye, knights, your ancient home.

 Chafed, and spelled, and fallen asunder!
- Charled, and spoised, and finite handled them a sunder them so now as then of old.

 Waters rolled and wrathful feam.

 Where the waves, beneath your graves,
 Snow themselves abroad in thunder.
 Laurence Binyon.

THE ENGINEER'S THUMB.

BY A. CONAN DOYLE.

Of all the problems which have been submitted to my friend Mr. Sherlock Holmes for solution during the years of our intimacy, there were only two which I was the means of intro-

thumb over his shoulder: "he's all right."

"What is it, then?" I asked, for his manner suggested that it was some strange creature which he had cazed up in my room.

'It's a new patient," he whispered. "I thought I'd bring him round myself; then he couldn't slip away. There he is, all safe and sound. I must go now, doctor, I have my dooties, just the same as you." And off he went, this trusty tout,

without even giving me time to thank him.

I entered my consulting room, and found a gentleman scated by the table. He was quietly dressed in a suit of heather tweed, with a soft cloth cap, which he had laid down upon my books. Round one of his hands he had a handkerable wrapped, which was mottled all over with blood stains. He was young, not more than five-and-twenty, I should say, with a strong masculine face; but he was exceedingly pale, and gave me the impression of a man who was suffering from some strong agitation, which it took all his strength of mind to control.

"I am sorry to knock you up so early, doctor," said he. "But I have hall a very serious accident during the night. I came in by train this morning, and on inquiring at Paddington as to where I might find a doctor a worthy fellow very kindly escorted me here. I gave the maid a card, but I see that she has left it upon the side table."

"I he looked very hard at me as I spoke, and it seemed to me that I had never seen so suspictous and uponing an eye.

"You do promise, then?" said he at last.

"You do promise.

"I have already given you my word."

"Yeary good." He suddenly sprang up, and darting like lightning across the room he fine the promise.

"That's all fig

but I see that she has left it upon the side table."

I took it up and glanced at it. "Mr. Victor
Hatherley, hydraulic engineer, 16a Victoria-st. (3d floor)." That was the name, style, and abode of my morning visitor. "I regret that I have Hatherley, hydraulic engineer, (3d floor)." That was the name, style, and abode of my morning visitor. "I regret that I have kept you waiting," said I, sitting down in my library chair. "You are fresh from a night journey, I understand, which is in itself a monotonous occupation."

"Oh, my night could not be called monotonous," said he, and laughed. He laughed very heartily, with a high ringing note, leaning back in his chair, and shaking his sides. All my medical chair, and shaking his sides. All my medical "Precisely zo. We shall want you to come to-night by the last train."

"Where to?"

and I poured out some water from a caraffe.

strong nature when some great crisis is over and gone. Presently he came to himself once more, very weary and blushing hotly. 'I have been making a fool of myself," he

brandy into the water, and the color began to I she come back to his bloodless cheeks.

perhaps you would kindly attend to my thumb, or rather to the place where my thumb used to late.

perhaps you would kindly attend to my thumb, or rather to the place where my thumb used to be."

He unwound the handkerchief and held out his hand. It gave even my hardened nerves a shudder to look at it. There were four protruding fingers and a horrid red spongy surface where the thumb should have been. It had been hacked or torn right out from the roots.

"Great heavens:" I cried, "this is a terrible injury. It must have bled considerably."

"Yes, it did. I fainted when it was done; and I think that I must have been senseless for a long time. When I came to I found that it was still bleeding, so I tied one end of my handkerchier very tightly round the wrist, and braced it up with a twig."

"Excellent!" You should have been senseled it to my thumb used to be."

"We have judged it test that you should come late, it is to recompense you for any inconvenience that we are paying to you a young and unknown man, a fee which would buy an opinion throw man, a fee which would buy an opinion throw the very heads of your profession. Still, of course, if you would like to draw out of the humbs should have been. Not at all, said I, 'I thought of the fifty guineas, and of how very wishes. I should like, however, to understand a little more clearly what it is that you wish me to do.'

"Quite so. It is very natural that the pledge of secreey which we have exacted from you should have a round in the very heads of your profession. Still, of course, if you would like to draw out of the humbs should have been. Not at all, said I, 'I thought of the fifty guineas, and of how very wishes. I should like, however, to understand a little more clearly what it is that you wish me to do.'

"Quite so. It is very natural that the pledge of secreey which we have exacted from you should come."

"Entirely."

"Entirely."

"Then the matter stands thus. You are not all the place of the internation of the internation of the humbs have around it.

"It is a question of hydraulies, you see, and came within my own province."

"This has been done," said I, examining the wound, "by a very heavy and sharp instrument."

"A thing like a cleaver," said he.

An accident, I presume?"

" By no means."

it is a question whether justice will be done."

a bachelor, and are resume above in London.

"That is quite correct," I answered, but you will excuse me if I say that I cannot see how all this beers upon my professional qualifications. I understood that it was on a professional matter that you wished to speak to me?"

'To Eyford, in Berkshire. It is a little place near the borders of Oxfordshire, and within sever noises of Reading. There is a train from Padding-ton which would bring you in there at about 11:15.

"Yery good,"
"I shall come down in a carriage to meet you.

"I shall come down in a carriage to meet you."

"There is a drive, then?"

"Yes, our little place is quite out in the country. It is a good seven miles from Eyford Station."

"Then we can hardly get there before mideight. I suppose there would be no change of a train back. I should be compelled to stop the night."

"Yes, we could easily give you a shakedown."

"That is very awkwart. Could I not come at some more convenient hour?"

"We have judged it test that you should come late. It is to recompense you for any inconvenient.

"'Entirely.'
"'Then the matter stands thus. You are probably aware that fuller's earth is a valuable product, and that it is only found in one or two places in England."
"'I have heard so.'

"Some little time ago I bought a small place— a very small place—within ten miles of Reading I was fortunate enough to discover that there was I was fortunate chough to discover that there we a deposit of feller's carth in one of my fields On examining it, however, I found that this deposit was a comparatively small one, and that it forme a link between two very much larger ones upor the right and the left—both of them, however, it "What, a murderous attack!"

"Very murderous, indeed."

"You horrify me."

I sponged the wound, cleaned it, dressed it; and finally covered it over with cotton wadding and carbolized bandages. He lay back without wincing, though lie bit his lip from time to time.

"How is that?" I asked, when I had finished.

"Capital! Between your brandy and your bandage, I feel a new man. I was very weak, but I have had a good deal to go through."

"Perhaps you had better not speak of the matter. It is evidently trying to your fierves."

"Oh, no; not now. I shall have to tell my tale to the police; but, between ourselves, if it were not for the convincing evidence of this wound of mine, I should be surprised if they believed my statement, for it is a very extraordinary one, and I have not much in the way of proof with which to back it up. And, even if they believe me, the clews which I can give them are so vague that it is a question whether justice will be done."

a link between two very much larger ones upon the right and the left—both of them, however, in the left—both of them, however, in the grounds of my neighbors. These good people were absolutely inorant that their land contained that which was quite as valuable as a gold mine. Naturally, it was to my interest to buy their land contained that which was quite as valuable as a gold mine. Naturally, it was to my interest to buy their land contained that which was quite as valuable as a gold mine. Naturally, it was to my interest to buy their land contained that which was quite as valuable as a gold mine. Naturally, it was to my interest to buy their land contained that which was quite as valuable as a gold mine. Naturally, it was to my interest to buy their land contained that which was quite as valuable as a gold mine. Naturally, it was to my interest to buy their land contained that which was quite as valuable as a gold mine. Naturally, it was to my interest to buy their land contained that which was quite as valuable as a gold mine. Naturally, it was to my interest to

in?'
'I quite follow you,' said I. 'The only point

it is a question whether justice will be done."

"Ha!" cried I, "if it is anything in the nature of a problem which you desire to see solved, I should strongly recommend you to come to my friend, Mr. Sherlock Holmes, before you go to the official police."

"Oh, I have heard of that fellow," answered my visitor, "and I should be very glad if he would take the matter up, though of course I must use the official police as well. Would you give me an introduction to him?"

"I dou't follow you,' said I. 'The only point which I could not quite understand was what use you could make of a hydraulic press in exavating fuller's earth, which, as I understand, is duz out like gravel from a pit.'

"Ah!' said he carelessly, 'we have our own process. We compress the earth into bricks, so as to remove them without revealing what they are. But that is a mere detail. I have taken you fully into my confidence now, Mr. Hatherley, and I have shown you how I trust you.' He rose as he spoke. 'I shall expect you then at Eyford at 11:15.'

there are no notice, that of M. Hatheries, we have the complete them and that of Colone Warburton's madees, of these the latter my laves afforded a finer field for an acute and original observer, but the after was as strange in its inequal to the complete in the mean and a single observer, but the after was as strange in its inequal to the complete in the original observer, but the after was as strange in the original observer, but the after was as strange in the original observer, but the after was as strange in the original observer, but the after a control of the complete in the original observer, but the after a control of the complete in the original observer, but the after a control of the complete in the original observer, but the after a control of the complete in the original observer, but the after a control of the complete in the original observer, but the after a control of the complete in the original observer, but the after a control of the complete in the original observer, but the after a control of the complete in the original observer of the after a control of the complete in the original observer of the after a control of the complete in the original observer of the after a control of the complete in the original observer of the after a control of the complete in the original observer of the after a control of the complete in the original observer of the after a control of the complete in the original observer of the after a control of the complete in the original observer of the after a control of the complete in the original observer of the after a control of the complete in the original observer of the after a control of the control of

"It was pitch dark inside the house, and the Colome! fumbled about looking for matches and muttering moder his breath. Saddenly a door opened at the other end of the passage, and a long golden bar of light shot out in our direction. It grew broader, and a woman anecared with a lump in her hand, which she held above in her head, pushing her face forward and perfind at us. I comit see that she was pretty, and from the gloss with which the light shone upon fer dark fores I knew that it was a rich material. She spoke a few words in a foreign forage in a tone as though asking a question and when my companion answered in a graff menosyllable she gave such a start that the lamp nearly fell from her hand. Colonel Stark went up to ber, I whispered something in her ear, and then head had come, he walked toward me again with lare, the limp in his hand. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp in his hand. Perhaps you will have the lamp in his hand. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his hand. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp in his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perhaps you will have the lamp on his land. Perh

that we were in the country. I passed an and down the room, humaning a ture unfor my breath to keep my spirits up, and feeling that I was thoroughly earning my afty-guines fee.

"Suddenly, without any preliminary sound in the midst of the utter stillnes, the door of my room swang slowly open. The woman was standing in the aperture, the darkness of the ball is, find her, the yellne light from my lamb beating upon her eager and beautiful face. I could see at a glance that she was sick with fear, and the sight sent a chill to my own heart. She held up one shaking finger to warn use to be silent, and she shot a few whispered words of broken English at me, her eyes glancing back, like these of a frightened horse, into the gloom behind her.

The triple is the triple in the property of the should not be again. He will be should not be seen to much. Let me pass, I say He checked her to one side, and, teshing to the window, out at me with his heavy weapon.

to do."

"But, madam," said I, 'I have not yet done what I came for. I cannot possibly leave until I have seen the machine."

"It is not worth your while to wait," she went on. 'You can poss through the door; no one hinders. And then, seeing that I smale! and shook my head, she suddedly threw possible her eastraint, and made a step forward, with her hands wring together. For the love of Heaven! she whispered, 'get away from here before it is too late."

close.'

"He shot one of his suspicious glances at me.

"Perhaps we had better proceed to business, then,'
said he. Mr. Ferguson and I will take you up
to see the machine.'

"That better put my hat on, I suppose.'

"Ob no, it is in the hone."

"Oh, no, it is in the house"
"What, you dig fuller's earth in the house?"
"No, no. This is only where we compress
it. But never mind that? All we wish you to
do is to examine the machine, and to let us know
what is wrong with it." We went upstairs together, the Colonel first

"We went upstairs together, the Colonel first with the lamp, the fat manager, and I belaind him. It was a labyrinth of an old house, with corridors, passages, narrow winding staircases, and little low doors, the thresholds of which were hollowed out by the generations who had crossed them. There were no carpets, and no signs of any furniture above the ground floor, while the plaster was peeling oil the walls, and the damp was breaking through in green unlessible. phasier was presing on the waits, and the damp was breaking through in green, unhealthy blotches. I tried to put on as unconcerned an air as possible, but I had not forgotten the warn-ings of the lady, even though I disregarded them, and I kept a keen eye upon my two companions. Ferguson appeared to be a morose and silent man, but I could see from the little that he said that he

pisst be in time to have a little breakfast with him. Do you feel equal to it?"

"Yes, I shall not feel easy until I have told my story."

"Then my servant will call a cab, and I shall first and the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the working with my string the agony column of "The Times" and smoothing its before-breif-fixes pipe, which was composed of all the pluss and dottels left from his smokers of the day before, all carrially dried and to show the was to my string my land in a cold, dank grasp, he nurned five mounts, but there is some stiffness in the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the work in the working of it, and it has lost a little of its force. Person the work in t

what it was, when I heard a mattered exclamation in German, and saw the cadaverous face of the Colonel looking down at me.

"'What are you doing there?' he asked.

"I felt anary at having been tricked by so elaborate a story as that which he had told me. 'I was admiring your fuller's earth,' said I: 'I think that I should be better able to advise you as to your machine if I knew what the exact purpose was for which it was used.'

"The instant that I uttered the words I regretted the rashness of my speech. His face set lard, and a baleful light sprang up in his gray eyes.

been my escape.

"I was recalled to myself by a frantia placking at my wrist, and I found myself lying upon the stone floor of a narrow corridor, while a woman bent over me and targed at me with her left hand, bent over me and targed at me with her left hand, while she belt a camile in her right. It was the same good friend whose warning I had so foolishly rejected.

"Come: come." she cried, brethlessly. They will be here in a moment. They will see that you are not there. Oh, do not waste the so precious time, but come."

"This time, at least," said Holmes, "you have had your revenue upon them. There can be no question that it was your oil lamp which, when it was crashed in the press, set fire to the wooden walls, though no doubt they were too excited in the characterist to my feet, and ran with her along the earlier and down a winding stair. The latter that another broad passage and, just as we lead to another broad passage and, just as we lead to another broad passage and, just as we lead to another broad passage and passage and the other—from the floor on which we were, and trom the floor on which we were, and the other—from the floor on which we were, and the other—from the floor on which we were, and the other—from the floor on which we were, and the other—from the floor on which we were, and the other—from the floor on which we were, and the other—from the floor on which we were, and the other—from the floor on which we were, and the other—from the floor on which we were, and the other—from the floor on which we were, and the other—from the floor on which we were, and the other—from the floor on which we were and lanked about her like one who is at let wit's end.

Then she three word a search the floor of the beautiful woman, the sinister form that day to this no word has ever been heard that day to this no word has ever been form the other like one who is at let wit's end.

The she three words are from the floor of which the moon was shiring brightly.

It is your only chance, said I saw the lean farther

her.

"I would go,' said she trying hard, as it seemed to me, to speak calmly: I would go, I should not stay here. There is no good for you to the window, out at me with his heavy we I had let myself go, and was langing by the lands of the sill, when his blow fell. I was conscious. a dult pain, my grip loosened, and I fell into the garden below.

a duil pain, my grip looseller, and treat a garden below.

"I was shaken, but not hart by the fall; so I picked myself up, and rushed oil among the bushes us hard as I could run, for I understood that I was far from being out of danger yet. Suddenly, however, as I ran, a decoly dizziness and sicks acame over the. I glanced down at my hand, which was throbbing poinfully, and then, for the first time, saw that my thimb hal been cat oil, and that the blood was pouring from my wound. I endeavored to the my handkereinef round it, but there came a sudden buzzing in my ears, and next moment I fell in a dead faint among the reserved.

But I am somewhat headstrong by nature, and the more ready to engage in an affair when there is some obstacle in the way. I thought of my fifty-guinea fee, of my weari-some journey, and of the ampleasant night which seemed to be before me. Was it all to go for nothing? Why should I slink away without having extried out my commission, and without the payment which was my due? This woman might, for all I knew, be a monomaniac. With a stout bearing, therefore, though her manner had shaden me more than I cared to confess, I still shook my heal, and declared my intention of remaining where I was. She was about to renew her entrenties when a door slammed overhead, and the aound of several footsteps were heard upon the stairs. She listened for an instant, threw up her hands with a despairing gresure, and vanished as suddenly and a sonoiselessly as she had come.

"The newcomers were Colonel Lyxander Stark and t short thick man with a chinchilla heard the Colonel. By the way, I was under the impression that I left this door shall me more that I get this door shall me more than I care the contrary, said the Colonel. By the way, I was under the impression that I left this door shall me more than I care the contrary, said the Colonel. By the way, I was under the impression that I left this door shall me more than I me more than I left this door shall me more than I left this door shall me more than I left this door shall me more than I me more than I me more than I me more than I left this door shall me more than I m

was one about three falles off.

"It was too far for me to go, weak and ill as I was. I determined to wait until I got back to town before telling my story to the police. It was a fittle past 6 when I arrived, so I went to have my wound dr s el, and then the doctor was kind enough to bring me along here. I put the ease into your hands, and shall do exactly what you arrive."

"We have a proper to the same and the state of the same and the same arrived."

We both sat in silence for some little time after

We both sat in silence for some little time after listening to this extraordinary carretave. The sections Hollies pulled down from the shelf one of the ponderans commonplace books in which he placed his cuttings.

"Here is an advertisement which will interest you," said he. "It appeared in the papers about a year ago. Listen to this:—"Lost, on the 9th loss., Mr. Jereman Haylang, aged 26, a hydraulic engineer. Left his lodgings at 10 o'clock at night, and has not been heard of since. Was diessed in, etc., etc. Ha! That represents the last time that the Colonel needed to have his machine overhauled, I fancy."

"Good heavens:" cired my patient. "Then

And I am for north," said I; "because there

silver."
"We have known for some time that a elever gang was at work," said the Inspector. "They have been turning out half crowns by the thousand.

have been turning out half crowns by the thousand. We even traced them as far as Reading, but could get no further; for they had covered their traces in a way that showed that they were very old hands. But now, thanks to this lucky channe, I think that we have got them right enough."

But the Inspector was mistaken, for those criminals were not destined to fall into the hands of justice. As we rolled into Eyford Starion we

of justice. As we rolled into Eylord streamed saw a gigantic column of smoke which streamed up from behind a small clump of trees in the neighborhood, and hunz like an immerise ostrich

"A house on fire?" asked Bradstreet, as the train steamed off again on its way.

"Yes, sir!" said the station-master.

"When did it break out?"

"I hear that it was during the night, sir, but it has got worse, and the whole place is in a blaze."

"Whose house is it?"
"Dr. Recher's."
"Tell me," broke in the engineer, "is Dr. Becher a German, very thin, with a long, sharp nose?"

Dr. Becher is an Englishman, and there isn't a man in the parish who has a better-lined waist-coat. But he has a gentleman staying with him, a patient, as I understand, who is a foreigner, and he looks as if a little good Berkshire beef would do him no harm.

The station-master had not finished his speech

before we were all hastening in the direction of the fire. The road topped a low hill, and there was a great widespread whitewashed building in front of us, spouting fire at every chink and window, while in the garden in front three fire engines were vainly striving to keep the flames

and still more so by discovering a significant form of the human thumb upon a window-sill of the floor. About sunset, however, their efforts at last successful, and they subdued the but not before the roof had fallen in, and

presence of these bulky boxes which have been already referred to.

How our hydraulic engineer had been conveyed from the garden to the spot where he recovered his senses might have remained for ever a mystery were it not for the soft mould, which told us a very plain tale. He had evidently been carried down by two persons, one of whom had remark-ably small feet and the other unusually large ones. On the whole, it was most probable that the silent Englishman, being less bold or less murderons than his companion, had assisted the woman to bear the unconscious man out of the

of danger. Well," said our engineer, ruefully,

"Well," said our engineer, ruefully, as we took our sents to return once more to London, "it has been a pretty business for me! I have lost my thomb, and I have lost a fifty-guinea fee, and what have I gained?"

"Experience," said Holmes, laughing. "Indirectly it may be of value, you know; you have only to put it into words to gain the reputation of being excellent company for the remainder of your avitages." The company for the remainder of of being excellent company for the remainder of your existence. "-(The Strand Magazine,

AN EPITAPH.

I dreamed that one had dled in a strange place
None no accustomed hand.
And they had natied the boards above her face
The peasants of that land.
And, wondering, planted by her solitude
A express and a yew.
I came and wrote upon a cross of wood—
Man had no more to do—
"She was more beautiful than thy first love
This hady by the trees."
And gazed upon the mountful stars above,
And heard the mountful breeze.
W. B. Yeats.

W. B. Yeats.

THE STATUE OF KING CHARLES THE PIRST Comely and calm, he rides Hard by his own Whitehall: Only the night wind glides: No crowds, for rebels, brawl.

Gone, too, his Court: and yet, The stars his courtlers Stars in their stations set; And every wandering star,

Alone he rides, alone, The fair and fatal king: Dack night is all his own, That strange and solemn thing. Which are more full of fate: The stars; or those sad eyes! Which are more still and great: Those brows; or the dark sides

A DRESS OF SPIDERS WEBS. Fift Letter to Notes and Queries.

Fiji Letter to Notes and Queries.

Mrs. White mentions as a great curiosity the dress made from spiders' webs presented to the Queen by the Empress of Brazil in 1877. Most certainly it is, not to most littlish minds such a thing might seem incredible: but if your correspondent were to visit Fiji—which it famous for its magnificent spiders—he might perimps have less cause for wonder. The web made by the big yellow spider here is very large and strong; but in addition to the web proper, in which fless, mosquitees, etc., are caught, if spins a cocoon of orange-col red, silky, gossamer-like staff, which, if taken up in the flugers, requires quite an effort to break. This stuff, I can conceive, might be woven into material for a dress. Might not the dress in question have been composed of similar material made by the Brazilian spiders;

I can hardly, even now, believe that it could have

question have been composed of similar material made by the Brazilian spiders?

I can hardly, even now, believe that it could have been composed of what we understand to be the ordinary spider's web. I can quite imagine, however, that such a material might be of some commercial value, as one frequently hears complaints at the present day of a want of tineness in fibres or materials used for scientific purposes.

I may add that our cockronches are huge, too; but, by a merciful dispensation of Providence, our spiders are in proportion. The particular enemy of the cockroach here is not the big yellow spider above mentioned, but a long-legged, formidable-looking brown spider, called the "hunting spider," I cannot ind out that this species spins any web, but apparently deings of the lady, even though I disregarded them, and I kept a keen eye upon my two companions. Ferguson appeared to be a morose and shent man, but I could see from the little that he said that he will be girl said."

"Good heavens:" cried my patient "Then that explains what the girls add."

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"Good heavens:" cried my patient "Then that explains what the girls add."

"I man add that our cockroaches are huge, too; but, by a merciful dispensation of Providence, our should hardly get at one time. Ferguson remained outside, and the Colonel ushered me in.

"We are now, said he, 'actually within the hydraulic press, and it would be a particularly nit on. The ceiling of this small chamber is really the end of the descending piston, and it comes flow the particularly outside which receive the force and which foor. There are small lateral columns of water flow. The coline is really that the small columns of water flow. The colone is force of many tons upon this medium celear that the clonel desperate man, who was a cool and desperate man, who was a small square room, in which the three of us could have end of the such a matchal might be of some commercial value and that make a matchal might be of some commercial value and the such a matchal might be of some commercial value and the such a matchal might be of some commercial value and the such a match

with his compasses drawing a circle with Eyford for its centre.

"There you are," said he. "That circle is drawn at a radius of ten miles from the village. The place we want must be somewhere near that line. You said ten miles, I think, sir?"

"It was an hour's good crive."

"It was an hour's good crive."

"And you think that they brought you back all that way when you were unconscious?"

"They must have deue so. I have a confused memory, too, of having been lifted and conveyed somewhere.

"What I cannot understand," said I, "is why they should have spared you when they found you lying fainting in the garden. Perhaps the villain was softened by the woman's entreaties."

"I hardly think that likely. I never saw a more inexorable face in my life."

"Oh, we shall soon clear up all that," said Bradstreet. "Well, I have drawn my circle, and I only wish I knew at what point upon it the folk that we are in search of are to be found.

"I think I could like my finger on it," said Holmes, quietly.

"Really, now!" cried the Inspector, "you have formed your opinion! Come now, we shall see who agrees with you. I say it is south, for the country is more deserted there."

"And I say earl," said my patient.

"I am for west," remarked the plain-clothes man. "There are several quiet little villages up there,"

"And I am for north," said I; "because there are up whills there, and our triend says that he did

there."

"And I am for north," said I; "because there are no hills there, and our friend says that he did not notice the carriage go up any."

"Come," cried the Inspector, laughing; "it's a pretty diversity of oninion. We have boxed the compass among us. Who do you give your casting vote to?"

"You are all wrong."

"You are all wrong."

"But we can't all be."

"But we can't all be."

"But we can't all be."

"But we will find them."

"But we will find them."

"But the twelve-mile drive?" gasped Hatherley.

"Six ont and six back. Nothing simpler. You say yourself that the horse was fresh and glossy when you got in. How could it be that, if it had gone twelve miles over heavy roads?"

"Indeed it is a likely ruse enough," observed Bradstreet, thoughtfully. "Of course there can be no doubt as to the nature of this gang."

"None at all," said Holmes. "They are cointers on a large scale, and have used the machine to form the amalgam which has taken the place of silver."

"We have known for some time that a clever."

"We have known for some time that a clever."

"You have often seen a cat lick herself, haven't

flon won't eat at all or he'll eat anything in the freshmeat line. The whole cat tribe has a low sense of taste. You have often seen a cat lick herself, haven't fou? She gets handfuls of hair in her mouth without minding it at all. Consider what discomfort one hair

produces in the mouth of a human being whose sense of taste is delicate." This old fellow's claws are pretty well worn down said the visitor, "I suppose, by constant use on the floor and walls of his cage."

"He has one claw not worn down at all," answered the keeper, "but I'll bet you can't detect it."

The visitor looked at all the paws and could see nothing but well worn claws. "Where is it !" he asked.

nothing but well worn claws. "Where is it!" he asked.

"At the end of the tan," said the keeper.

"Oh, now," remarked the visitor; "no more Jokes on me to day, thank you."

The keeper put his hand between the bars, caught the patient ex-monnrch of the forest by the tall and showed the visitor a sort of herny hook concealed among the long hairs at the end of it. "What use it serves there," he added, "naturalists don't know, I believe. Some say he uses it to lash himself into a riage. Next time you look at any books on Nineveh, notice how the old Assyrians exaggerated this hook on the talls of lions carved upon their funny old marbles."

DEACON JONES'S HUSKIN' BEE.

"Dearon Jones's wife called on me to-day, Zeb," said 'Mandy, the other evenin'. "She says the Deacon hasn't been in his usual sperets ever since the failure, as he calls it, of his huskin' bee, last fall," and 'Mandy laughed right heartily over the reckelection of that notable event.
It's the custom of the farmers in our naborhood to

have a huskin' bee every fall, an' thus bring the sea-son's work to an end with a round of merry-makin' which is looked for'ard to an' talked about by the young folks all summer long, an' many castles in the air are built by them as they fondly think of the many opportunities and hoped-for results. Deacon Jones's, 'specially, are held in great favor by them all, owin', no doubt, to his only child, Mollie, the prettiest and sociablest girl in the naborhood. But the good Deacon made up his mind that he wouldn't have any more o' the goin's on at his hustin' bee that had worried an' scandalized him, as a leadin' pillar o' the church, at the last one he had. One evenin' Mollie overheard him tellin' her mother how he was goin' overheard him tenin her mouset from the second corn, pickin' out all the red cars till there wouldn't be a single nubbin' left o' that color. He didn't intend to leave the least bit of an excuse for the young fellers havin' a chance o' hissin' the girls, an' 'specially their Mollie, who always seemed to git more'n her share. He thought it was a sin an' a shame to allow such doin's, an' be'd show the nabors a huskin' bee as was a huskin' bee. event' not knowin' that his daughter was aware o' his plans. Now, Mollie had her own ideas about a father's. So she told two or three of her admirers the whole place been reduced to such absolute ruin that, save some twisted cylinders and iron piping, not a trace remained of the machinery which had cost our unfortunate acquaintance so dearly. Large masses of nickel and of tin were discovered stored in an outhouse, but no coins were to be found, which may have explained the presence of these bulky boxes which have been already referred to.

barn, eagerly waitin' for the word to begin huskin' the great heaps of corn piled upon the floor. 'Mandy an' I went over to look on an' enjoy the young people's frolles, for Mollie had told 'Mandy what was in the wind. We stood talkin' to the Dencon an' his wife an' when he at length gave the word for them to begin work he turned to me an' says:

"Now, Zeb, you'll see what a huskin' bee should be, accordin' to my idec. In all them piles I'll warrant they won't find a single red-

Jest then the Deacon was cut short by a shout of joy from one o' the young chaps as he waved a big red car over his hend an' started after Mollie, who gave a shrick an' scampered across the barn floor. After a hast and the lucky feller took his reward in a hearty kiss upon her rosy lips. You'd orter've seen the Deaon s face at that minit. It was a picture of aston

ment an' dismay. "Wall, I swan," he stammered out, "I don't see how I could've overlooked that ear. Right on top, too. I don't believe they'll find any more, though,"

was seen tryin' to dodge another young man, who was after her, holdin' aloft his prize. She rushed behind Mandy, where he caught her, an' gave her a rousin' hiss right before the Deacon's horrified eyes,

shady, where as caught her, an gave her a roush has right before the Deacon's horrified eyes. 'Mandy an' the Deacon's wife couldn't keep their faces straig'st any longer, but jest set down an' laughed tid the tears ran down their cheeks. The Deacon sat down with a groan of helpless despair, an' says:

— I must be loosin' my eyestght. Zeb. I'd a made an affydayy that there wasn't a red ear in the barn, but the pesky stalies are full of 'em."

He was right. Full of 'em they were, for every youngster had come with his peckets stuffed with red ears, an' they do say that the girls brought more'n one car apiece, so's to be sure of a good supply. Leastways there was more red ears found at the Deacon's huskin' bee than were found at all the other bees in the naborhood last fall, an' the fun the young folks had over 'em was a sight to behold. When the Deacon found out row his plans had miscarried he was awful angry an' vowed that he'd never have another buskin' bee, but 'Mandy says she guesses that when the time comes around again Mollie an' her mother'll be able to coax him into chongin' his mind about it.

IT MAKES A DIFFERENCE WHO ASKS.

elevated railroad station. In each case one of the principals was the "ticket-chopper." Note how his moods vary:
A young woman in whose cheeks showed a touch of roses and whose eyes were of the sympathetic kind came up to him. She had a small hand which looked

very shapely in its glove as she rested it on the box.
"What is the next train!" she asked, with a

"A South Ferry train ma'am," answered the chopper" with great deference.

and humility.
"Doesn't it go to the Bridge!" "Oh, no, the next train after the one coming goes

"That's a Bridge train, is it?" "Yes; I'll call out to you when it comes." "Oh, thank you very much."

mploye, with evident pleasure at being able to give information.

Three minutes later, just when a train had pulled into the station, a man came rushing to the platform, " Is that a Bridge or a South Ferry train ?" he asked

"Not at all," answered the gentle elevated railroad

breathlessly.

" Is this a Bridge train ?" "Eh! Can't you see!"

reached the platform."

I reached the platform."
"Well, it's a Bridge train," growled the amlable gentleman who "chops" tickets for a living, "but you've missed it. The gates is closed."

And so the world of Gotham goes on spinning

instincts rose up against that laugh.
"Stop it!" I cried. "Pull yourself together!" It was useless, however. He was off in one of those hysterical outbursts which come upon a

"Not at all. Drink this!" I dashed some "That's better!" said he. "And now, doctor,

"Excellent! You should have been a surgeon."

"What, a murderous attack!"

"I should be immensely obliged to you."

"We'll call a cab, and go together. We shall "And not a word to a soul." He looked at me

he chackled. "That's one consola-"

But jest then another red car was found, an' Mollie

The two little incidents given herewith occurred within three minutes of each other on the same

"Oh, thank you. And where does it go?"
"To South Ferry, ma'am," with admirable patience

to the Bridge."

"Of course not. The signals got past here before